(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) was set up by the Government of India in terms of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions considered under the Act. The AERB reports to the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) which is a high level body consisting of the Chairman. Atomic Energy Commission, the Cabinet Secretary, the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, the Member-Secretary of the Planning Commission, the Finance Secretary of the Government of India, the Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, the Chairman and Managing Director of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. and two eminent scientists and is functionally independent of the Department of Atomic Energy. Its members are eminent in various safety-related disciplines. Three of them are not connected with the activities of the Atomic Energy Commission. This ensures the independence of the Board. Every recommendation or decision of the AERB has been complied with by the Units of the Department of Atomic Energy.

A review committee was appointed in January, 1997 under the directions of the Prime Minister to look into various aspects of the present regulatory process in recpect of nuclear installations in the country. The Committee was to go into the regulatory process as originally envisaged and as it has evolved upto now and what would be needed to suit our own needs and system. The Committee was also to make recommendations for effective and speedy discharge of regulatory functions and the responsibilities and bounds and also the accountability of the regulatory body, including autonomy for discharge of its functions, the role of outside experts, etc. The seven member Committee headed by Dr. Raja Ramanna, a former Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy and Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission. submitted its report in August 1997. The report is being processed for further action.

Generation of nuclear power

932. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the original targets fixed for generation of nuclear power by the end of Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plans, respectively;

(b) the actual achievement in nuclear power generation during the seventh and Eighth plans and prospects for the Ninth Plan;

(c) the reasons for shortages in achievement in the past; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The targetted power generation through atomic energy by the end of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Plan periods and the corresponding achievements are given below:—

	Targetted generation (in Million Units)	Actual generation
Seventh Plan	28184	24932
Eighth Plan	37070	34844
Ninth Plan	Will be finalised in Ninth Plan	Not applicable

(c) During the Seventh Five Year Plan the shortfall was 3252 million units due to problems relating to sealing of south end shield light water leak and consequent restriction in power level at RAPS-1 and due to failure of turbine blades and moderator inlet manifolds at MAPS-1 and 2. During the eighth plan period the shortfall of around 2226 in the actual generation was due to :

(i) Initial problem during the stabilisation period of Narora Atomic Power Station Units and their long shut down after the turbine generator fire incident in Units.

(ii) Long shut down of the Tarapur Atomic Power Station units during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for refuelling and core-shroud inspection.

(iii) Extended shut down of Madras Atomic Power Station Units during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for in service inspection of coolant channels.

(d) Continuous efforts are being made to improve the capacity utilisation of the existing plants by taking measures like strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive and predictive maintenance improving outage management intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly with the use of simulators, modifications carried out on the turbo-generators supplied by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, effective co-operation with Regional Electricity Boards to improve the frequency control for the grid, decentralisation of the decision making to enable prompt action at the operating stations and exchange of technical information and experince through International bodies.

Russia's fresh conditions regarding sale of Nucler Reactors

933. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia now wants a supplementary agreement signed with three fresh conditions to the agreement signed on 20th November, 1988 regarding sale of its nuclear reactors to India such as (i) the entire project cost should be calculated in dollar terms, (ii) payment in dollars instead of Indian rupee as originally agreed, and (iii) it will fund only 85 per cent of the total project cost; and

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to the fresh demands of the Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) A supplement to the Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) of 1988 for setting up of the 2 × 1000 MWe VVER type Light Water Reactor Nuclear Power Station at Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu is being negotiated with the Russian Federation which includes the terms for financial assistance, repayments, etc.

Profit of Nuclear Power Stations

934. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nuclear Power Stations made a profit of Rs. 250 crores in 1996-97 and this will increase to Rs. 300 crores in 1997-98; and

(b) what is the rate per unit at which this power is being sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited made a net profit of Rs. 252.98 crore during the financial year 1996-97. The net profit of NPCIL during the current financial year upto October, 1997 is Rs. 120.03 crore (provisional) and as per revised estimates for 1997-98, the projected net profit is Rs. 217 crore.